

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7-12, 15-19, 21-23, and 26 are pending. As stated in Applicant's response dated January 25, 2005, in light of the Final Office Action dated December 14, 2004, claim 27 is withdrawn. Claims 1, 3, 9-10, 18 and 23 have been amended, and claims 2, 8, 12, 15-17 and 19 have been cancelled. Claim 28 is new. The Final Office Action dated February 8, 2005 ("Office Action") rejects claims 1-4, 7-12, 15-19, 21-23 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 5,825,943 ("DeVito") in view of U.S. patent application publication no. 2001/0041021 ("Boyle").

Independent claims 1 and 23 are amended and provide a document digitizing method comprising optically scanning a document comprising a plurality of pages, forming and storing a digitized image file from the optically scanned plurality of pages of the document, and optically recognizing under computer control characters in the plurality of optically scanned pages of the document. The method includes forming and storing text files of the optically recognized characters in the plurality of pages of the document, and, after a search of the document for a results page comprising a selected text string, providing access to a digitized image file of at least one of a next preceding and a next succeeding page of the results page. Independent claim 18 similarly is amended and provides a method of retrieving the digitized image file for a document, comprising storing digitized image files for plural printed documents in association with text files of the text characters in each document, the text files being generated by computer optical character recognition of the digitized image files or related image files, searching the text files to identify any having a selected text string, and providing access to a first digitized image file corresponding to a first text file identified as having the selected text string. The method includes providing access to at least one of a next successive digital image file corresponding to a next successive text file after the first digitized image file and a next preceding digital image file representing a digitized image of a next preceding text file before the first digitized image file. Support for the amendments is found throughout the specification and specifically at paragraph 42.

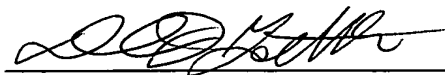
DeVito discusses a method of generating a text data set representative of a text portion of information contained in a document set (DeVito at abstract). A search phrase is identified in response to user-specified search criteria and the search phrase is identified in

the text image data set (*Id.*). Then, a table is used to identify the coordinates information corresponding to the search phrase identified in the text data set (*Id.*). A display of the portion of the page containing the search phrase is generated using the coordinates information (*Id.*). Boyle discusses a system and method for providing a conduit between a handheld electronic device and a remote storage unit, allowing a user to transfer images captured by an image capture device attached to the handheld electronic device, and synchronizing data between the handheld electronic device and the remote storage unit (Boyle at abstract).

Neither DeVito nor Boyle alone or in combination disclose forming and storing text files of optically recognized characters in a plurality of pages of a document, and, after a search of a document for a results page comprising a selected text string, providing access to a digitized image file of at least one of a next preceding and a next succeeding page of the results page. That is, neither DeVito nor Boyle alone or in combination teach providing access to a next preceding and a next succeeding page. Likewise, the references alone or in combination do not disclose providing access to at least one of a next successive digital image file corresponding to a next successive text file after a first digitized image file and a next preceding digital image file representing a digitized image of a next preceding text file before the first digitized image file. Applicant's invention includes the ability to review adjacent pages of a results page. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the final rejection and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1, 3-4, 7, 9-11, 18, 21-23, 26, and 28.

Respectfully submitted,

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Daniel J. Goettle
Registration No. 50,983

Woodcock Washburn LLP
One Liberty Place - 46th Floor
Philadelphia PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 568-3100
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439